ACHS SUMMARY FORM

	1984 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987 - 1987
1.	Name: John T. Williams House
_2.	Planning Area/Site Number: 17/33 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 12 B-6
4.	Address: West Offutt Road, Poolesville
5•	Category building Previous Survey Recording M-NCPPC Ownership private Title and Date: 1976 Inventory of Public Acquisition N/A Status unoccupied Accessible no Federal State x County x Local Present use agriculture
6.	Date: 1841-1863 7. Original Owner: John M. Williams
8.	Apparent Condition
	a. fair b. unaltered c. original site
9.	Description: This elegant four bay by three bay, two-and-a-half story Seneca sandstone house stands in the middle of a corn field about one mile from West Offutt Road facing southeast. A three bay, one-and-a-half story kitchen dependency west of the main house is connected by a two bay sand-stone wall and a shed roofed porch to the house. Windows are all ruined although evidence suggests there were six-over-six double-hung windows. The main house has a steeply pitched hipped roof with a wooden cupola at the peak.
10.	Significance: The John T. Williams House is an outstanding example of Italianate architecture unaltered(except for the possible removal of porches) since its construction by a member of a prominent local family whose members were among the early settlers of Maryland. John M. Williams built this house for his son, John T. Williams. It is thought that Williams used stone left after construction of a canal aqueduct for this house. John M., however, retained ownership, and later willed the place to his son. After John T's death in 1863, the 300 acre property included a dwelling in poor condition, young orchard, kitchen, smokehouse, dairy, icehouse, poultry house, and ash house. A small wooden schoolhouse built nearby in 1889 is still standing. The property remained in the family until 1937. It since has been rented out, and used as storage space. The present owners have begun restoration.
11.	Candy Reed Researcher and date researched: Mary Ann Kephart-8/78 Arch. Description
12.	Compiler: Margaret Coleman 13, Date Compiled: 10/79 14. Designation Approval

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME				
HISTORIC	John T. Williams Hou	ıse		
AND/OR COM	MON			
AND/OR COMP	Horace Davis Farm, '	"Part of Forrest"	, "Beershaba"	
2 LOCAT	ION			
STREET & NUM		ad		
CITY, TOWN	Poolesville _	_ VICINITY OF	CONGRESSIONAL DISTRI	СТ
STATE			county Montgomery	
2 CI A CCI	Maryland IFICATION		HOH CROIDELY	
o CLASSI	IFICATION			
CATEG	ORY OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESI	NT USE
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STRUCTUF	REBOTH	_WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE -	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	_SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION
_		<u>X</u> no	MILITARY	OTHER:
4 OWNE	R OF PROPERTY			
NAME F	our Thirty Seven Land	d Company. Inc.	W-1	
STREET & NU		- 	Telephone #:	
	20 Park Avenue			
CITY, TOWN			STATE , Z	ip code
N	ew York	VICINITY OF	New York	10022
5 LOCAT	TION OF LEGAL DESC	RIPTION	Liber #: 5024	
			Folio #: 598	
COURTHOUSE REGISTRY OF		unty Courthouse	rollo #: 770	
STREET & NU		arroy court throase		
CITY, TOWN	Rockville		STATE	00050
			Maryland	20850
6 REPRE	SENTATION IN EXIS	IING SURVEYS		
TITLE	M-NCPPC Inventory of	f Historical Site	es	
DATE	1 976	FEDERAL X	STATE X_COUNTY _LOCAL	
DEPOSITORY				_
SURVEY RECO				
CITY, TOWN	D 1 .33		STATE	
	Rockville		Maryland 2	0855

_EXCELLENT

_GOOD

X FAIR

M. G-53

CONDITION

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

XUNALTERED

__ALTERED

CHECK ONE

X_ORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE___

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This elegant mid-nineteenth century Seneca sandstone house stands in the middle of a corn field about one mile from West Offutt Road.

Built on a stone foundation, over a shallow crawl space and a 10' x 10' cellar, this four bay by three bay house faces southeast. A kitchen dependency stands to the west of the main house, connected to it by a sandstone wall and a porch. Both the main house and the kitchen have quoins at each of their four corners of the same Seneca sandstone material as their exterior walls.

At one time there was a porch on the southeast (front) elevation of the main house. This has since disappeared, but its shadow remains. The front door is located in the second bay from the south corner. It is set into a deep frame and surmounted by a three light transom. Etched into the lintel above this door is the date 1868. There are no windows remaining, although photographs show that there were six-over-six double hung windows at one time. Each window is defined by a stone sill and lintel. The main house has a steeply pitched hipped roof which is covered by corrugated metal. At the peak of the roof is a square cupola containing four full sized windows. There is an interior corbelled brick chimney toward the east corner of the house.

There are two doors on the northwest elevation which are raised considerably above ground level. There was probably a porch which gave access to the backyard. There are remains of a brick chimney stack on the northwest elevation.

The kitchen dependency is connected to the west corner of the main house by a sandstone wall. Approximately seven feet forward from this stone wall is a frame, clapboarded wall with a window. A door leads from the west corner room of the main house into the small room thus created.

The kitchen dependency is three bays across, one-and-a-half stories and faces southeast. There is a porch that extends the full length of the kitchen and continues an additional 10 feet to the main house where a second door opens into the west corner room. The door to the kitchen is centered between two windows on the southeast elevation. This is a simple board and batten door. No windows remain in the kitchen, although evidence suggests that there were six-over-six double-hung windows here as well. In the southwest and northeast gable ends of the kitchen there are two small window openings. The kitchen has a gable roof, covered by corrugated metal. The walls are 24 inches thick. There is a massive exterior stone end chimney at the southwest elevation.

The southeast (front) door to the main house opens into a hall. An open string two run staircase ascends along the northwest interior wall. The handrail and balusters are missing but the square holes on the tread suggest that there were square balusters. To the northeast of the hall is a room, containing a fireplace, that once served as the living room. Northwest of this room is a small room which once served as a bedroom. Along the northwest exterior wall a closed string staircase ascends to the second floor. Southwest of the bedroom is a dining room. This has ton as and groove wainscoting and a fireplace. Five doors lead in and out of this room. On the northwest exterior wall there are two panelled doors, surmounted by three-light transoms, which lead outside from the dining room CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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SPECIFIC DAT	TES 1841-1863	BUILDER/ARC	HITECT	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John T. Williams House is an outstanding example of Italianate architecture unaltered (except for the possible removal of porches) since its construction by a member of a prominent local family whose members were among the early settlers of Maryland.

John McGill Williams, who assembled the land on which this house is built, was a fifth generation Marylander, his great granfather Thomas

Williams having been born in this state in 1665.

John M. Married Priscilla Lyles, the daughter of wealthy Poolesville physician Richard Lyles, and in 1818 began acquiring land nearby. The tracts on which the Williams house stands were patented to the Peters and he Fletchall families in 1770, 1772, and 1788.2

John M. who, according to Assessment Records from 1831-1857, owned

eight slaves, about 700 acres of land with improvements and silver plate securities, also served in a public capacity as a Justice of the Peace and Appraiser. In 1828 he dedicated land for the construction of a road across

his property to nearby Edward's Ferry.

When his two eldest sons were married, he built each of them a Seneca sandstone house of square, Italianate design, situated within the boundaries of his plantation. Sometime before, in 1830, he had bought 150 perches of stone left over from the construction of a nearby aqueduct on the C&O Canal, from James Costigan, the engineer. It is thought that this is the stone used in his sons! houses.

He retained title to the property. Assessment records show John T., the occupant of the house discussed here, to have been a slave owner and owner of household furniture, livestock, securities, and silver plate, but not the owner of his land. In an assessed value of \$2,134.00. In 1861, land and improvements of this farm had

In 1863 after John'M. had moved to Georgetown, Washington, D.C., he made a will leaving each son "the plantation whereupon he now dwelleth".

John T. died in 1863. A description of his property in the Orphans

Court Docket reads as follows:

"300 acres @ \$20.00 per acre.... We find the farm in the following condition: divided in four fields partly enclosed with a thrifty young orchard. The dwelling and stabling in poor condition. The kitchen, smokehouse, dairy, icehouse, poultry house and ash house in good condition. The farm contains about 20 acres of wood land with little timber having been cut over by the army, this 17th day of August 1863."4

The dwelling, kitchen and dairy are still standing. CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(Continued on Attachment Sheet B)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Attachment Sheet C

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 241 acres

The farm has for most of the time been composed of three tracts totalling 241 acres, with the house located on a 15 acre tract (of the three) called "Part of Forrest". The present owner wishes to sell only the house and 9 acres to his son, Robert P. Jamison.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

STATE COUNTY	
STATE COUNTY	

FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE Mary Ann Kephart	Candy Reed Architectural Description
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Sugarloaf Regional Trails	8/78
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
Box 87	926-4510
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Dickerson	Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438

John T. Williams House

and bedroom. The floors throughout the house are random width. The walls and ceilings are plaster and lath. There is molded trim about all the door surrounds.

The kitchen is one large room. There is a boxed staircase in the east corner leading up to the loft area. A large cooking fireplace is set into the northeast interior wall. There are shelves built into the southwest wall next to the fireplace.

There is a second stone outbuilding, a dairy or milkhouse, about 9' x 9' with pitched roof, a door facing toward the house and small grilled openings on the other three sides. The walls, as in the kitchen, are 24 inches thick.

John T. Williams House

Searchers for Civil War relics have found belt buckles and buttons of the 14th New Hampshire Reg. & 39th Mass.

Ann Mariah Talbott Williams, his widow, continued to operate the farm for 20 years after his death, sharing ownership with her four children. In 1878, the 300 acres valued at \$2,400 and improvements at \$1,200, making the assessed value of the farm \$3,600. Her youngest child, Mary Emma Williams, married to Horace Davis, a school teacher, moved back from six years residence in California, in 1884 and with her husband, bought the farm from her mother and brothers. While her husband taught school, Mrs. Davis managed the farm, directing both farm laborers and house servants as her mother had done before her.

In 1889 Mary and Horace Davis deeded one acre to the Board of School Commissioners. The small wooden schoolhouse built there is still standing, but no longer used.

still standing, but no longer used.

The Davis' children and grandchildren inherited the farm. Frank
Davis, the youngest son, and his family lived in the house for several
years until the family sold it in 1937.

The farm was occupied and managed by tenants after that date until the 1960's. For about 10 years the house has been unoccupied and farmers have used it to store straw. It has now been purchased by Charles H. Jamison, and his son Robert P. Jamison has begun restoration.

The inscribed date on the stone lintel above the front door continues to be a mystery. If the house had been built in 1868 it would have to have been built by John T. Williams' widow. This seems unlikely. Further, the kitchen building and dairy listed in the 1863 Orphan's Court Docket appear to be constructed in the same material and by the same method as the house. If the house was a replacement of an original, it is unlikely that it could match the other buildings so exactly. We have to assume that the date which is inscribed on the stone lintel was inscribed for another reason than the finishing of the house; the addition of a porch, perhaps, or a renovation of some kind.

Since John T. Williams was married in 1841 and died in 1863, we place the construction of the house within this period, and very probably soon after 1841.

Solidly built of Seneca sandstone, this house continues, in its original condition, as an excellent example of the type of house built by prosparous farmers of the second half of the 19th century in northwestern Montgomery County.

FOOTNOTES:

- 1. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., U 109 (1818).
- 2. Patents BC & GS #41/434 and BC & GS #47/82, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, Md.
- 3. Land Records, op. cit., BS 4/68 (1830).
- 4. Montgomery County Orphan's Court Records, RWC 1/33 (1863).
- 5. Land Records, op. cit., EBP 32/401 (1884).

John T. Williams House

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Montgomery County Land, Assessment, and Orphan's Court Records. Chancery and Patent Records, Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland. Scharf, J. Thomas, "History of Western Maryland (Philadelphia, Louis H. Everts, 1882).

Williams, Ann Perry, The Williams Family, 1938, Montgomery County Historical Society.

Mrs. T. C. Oxley, John M. Williams' great granddaughter, 17321 West Willard Road, Poolesville, Maryland 20837 - Interviews 1978.

Maps: Martenet & Bond (1865)
G.M. Hopkins Atlas (1870)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

160 : 545504

NOMINATION FORM

for the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

	NAME				
	COMMON:				
	AND/OR HISTORIC: F. Wi	lliams House	2		
2.	LOCATION				n buair dh'Araife àr
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	Offut	Road			
	CITY OF TOWN:	sville			
	STATE	371110	COUNTY:		
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3.	CLASSIFICATION	er en			
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	District Building	Public Pu	ublic Acquisition:	Occupied	Yes:
	Site Structure	Private	In Process	Unoccupied	Restricted
	Object	☐ Bosh	Being Considered	Preservation work	Unrestricted
				in progress	No No
	PRESENT USE (Check One or M	ore as Appropriate)			<u> </u>
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		. .		☐ Transportation	Comments
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4.	OWNER OF PROPERTY	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
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The house, which is four bays wide, with a hipped-roof, carries the date 1868 on the doorway lintel. It is built of stone, with stone lintels and corner quoins. To the west is a stone kitchen building connected to the house by a one story framed passageway. The kitchen has a boxed cornice and a large belvedere at the peak of the roof.

Other ruined structures include a stone lined well, a stone springhouse, a log smoke-house with vertical siding, and an octagonal outbuilding with vertical siding.

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NAME WILLIAMS HOUSE - DATED 1868

LOCATION OFF OFFUTT Rd. POOLESVILLE, McL

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NAME WILLIAMS HOUSE - DATED 1868

LOCATION OF OFFUTT Rd. POOLESVILLE, Md.

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 10/4/13 MOWYER